

A-Form of Cytoplasmic Domain of nARIA (CRD-neuregulin) And  
Uses Thereof

Abstract of the Disclosure

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10 This invention provides an assay for diagnosing whether a  
subject has or is predisposed to developing a neoplastic  
disease which comprises: a) obtaining a biological sample  
from the subject; b) contacting the sample with an agent  
that detects the presence of an extracellular domain of  
nARIA (CRD-neuregulin) or an isoform thereof; c) measuring  
the amount of agent bound by the sample; d) comparing the  
amount of agent bound measured in step c) with the the  
amount of agent bound by a standard normal sample, a higher  
15 amount bound by the sample from the subject being indicative  
of the subject having or being predisposed to developing a  
neoplastic disease. One embodiment of this invention is a  
method for maintaining synaptic connections between a neuron  
and a target cell comprising contacting the target cell with  
20 an nARIA polypeptide or a nucleic acid molecule encoding  
nARIA in an amount sufficient to induce the formation of a  
synaptic junction.

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